



NC STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering
NC Clean Energy Technology Center
Campus Box 7409
Raleigh, NC 27695-7409
www.nccleantech.ncsu.edu
919.515.3480 (phone)
919.515.5778 (fax)

March 10, 2015

To: Chowan County Commissioners

From: Lyra D. Rakusin, Sr. Renewable Energy Training Specialist, NC Clean Energy Technology Center (*formerly NC Solar Center*), NC Wind Working Group Coordinator (2008)

Sirs:

I am writing in response to the letter dated March 3, 2015 from the Chairman of the Chowan Planning Board about the Chowan County Wind Energy Facility Ordinance. In the letter, there was reference to the North Carolina Model Wind Ordinance. I was involved in facilitating the process of drafting that ordinance. The letter in question inaccurately portrays both our role facilitating the NC Wind Working Group and the process of developing the model wind ordinance by suggesting it was driven by a wind lobbyist without the input of other stakeholders.

As a UNC System-chartered Public Service Center administered by the College of Engineering at North Carolina State University, it is the NC Clean Energy Technology Center's mission to advance a sustainable energy economy by educating, demonstrating and providing support for clean energy technologies, practices, and policies. Our facilitation of the NC Wind Working Group is consistent with this mission. Our role is to convene stakeholders and provide fact-based and unbiased information for decision makers. We do not advocate for policies on behalf of industry.

The Model Wind Ordinance was developed in 2008. During that process, I took detailed minutes of the meetings, including attendance and discussion points by person. The Wind Working Group had thoughtfully invited representatives from the environmental community, state and national parks, the military, coastal area stakeholders, state employees, and small wind and utility scale wind developers to be part of the process of drafting the model ordinance. The Model Wind Ordinance was drafted so that wind energy can be harnessed in a manner that is safe, effective, and socially, economically and environmentally sound.

The process was always open and it was our intention to make this public. I am making the full set of meeting minutes easily available to you in a shared drive here: <http://go.ncsu.edu/modelwind> and as attachments. As you will observe while reading the minutes, the process included a broad range of stakeholders and there was significant discussion from various perspectives involved in this process. Each stakeholder's interests were discussed and vetted until there was consensus. Each change and iteration of the model ordinance as it progressed through each meeting is captured in the meeting minutes.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at lyra_rakusin@ncsu.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyra Rakusin".

Lyra D. Rakusin
Sr. Renewable Energy Training Specialist
NC Clean Energy Technology Center

Enclosures

CC: Chowan County Planning Board